

by the end of September. The NIH Director has warned that congressional inaction is cannibalizing resources for other public health needs.

Families in States like Florida, Louisiana, and Texas are in danger. They cannot wait any longer for this Congress to act.

The House must give our public health experts the resources that they need to help keep the American people safe.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MASTER PATROL OFFICER FRED ARNOLD III

(Mr. JOLLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and honor the memory of Tampa Police Master Patrol Officer Fred Arnold III. Fred passed away last month while scuba diving in Nevada. He was 48 years old.

For nearly three decades, Officer Arnold served and protected the residents of Tampa, Florida. When he was just 23 years old, while off-duty, he jumped through a window into a burning house to save a mother and her two young children, ages 4 months and 4 years old. All three were unconscious when Arnold pulled them out. For his heroism, he was given an award for valor.

Over the years, Officer Arnold also helped mentor hundreds of teens through the community's Police Explorers program. Those he helped described Arnold as a father figure, someone who was easygoing, always approachable, and had a laugh that was so infectious, it would brighten your day.

As Tampa's mayor said: "Arnold's service to the city was unparalleled, and he leaves behind a lasting legacy."

Mr. Speaker, Fred Arnold III was a well-known and well-respected man who served his community with distinction, made a lasting impact, and will be sorely missed by the lives he touched.

May God bless Officer Fred Arnold III, his family, his friends, and his Tampa Police Department colleagues.

EMERGENCY FUNDS TO COMBAT ZIKA VIRUS EPIDEMIC

(Mr. SCHIFF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the Republican majority to act immediately on the administration's request for emergency funds to combat the Zika virus epidemic.

It is shameful that we have waited 7 months to act while the threat from Zika grows more and more apparent. This majority is failing the most basic function of government, to protect its people.

In the United States and territories, as many as 14,000 locally acquired cases

have already been reported, and at least 1,600 pregnant women have been infected, putting their babies at risk for microcephaly and other devastating birth defects. Every week we fail to act, more children and families will suffer the consequences.

Let's heed the call of public health experts to launch an aggressive campaign against the Zika virus and pass a funding bill immediately.

CONGRATULATING OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST RYAN HELD

(Mr. LAHOOD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Springfield, Illinois, native Ryan Held on his Olympic gold medal for swimming at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.

The 2016 Rio Games were Ryan Held's first Olympics, and he represented the United States in the 4 × 100 meter freestyle relay, along with Nathan Adrian, Caeleb Dressel, and Michael Phelps. Ryan took over for Phelps for the third leg of the freestyle relay. Ryan's fast split time of 47.73 seconds maintained the lead for the U.S. and helped the team swim to gold.

I know I speak for everyone in Springfield when I say that we are very proud of Ryan Held. He represented his community, his State, and his country with the strength, speed, humility, and dignity befitting an Olympic champion.

This past Friday, our hometown Olympian was warmly celebrated by the city of Springfield at Sacred Heart-Griffin, his alma mater, where hundreds from the community came out to congratulate him.

Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner declared September 2, 2016, as Ryan Held Day during a ceremony at Sacred Heart-Griffin High School. I hope this day serves as a reminder to Ryan of our support and pride in him as he prepares for the rest of what will undoubtedly be a decorated swimming career.

FUNDING FOR RESPONSE TO THE ZIKA CRISIS

(Mr. HIMES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask, to beseech, really, that this House take immediate action to fully fund our country's response to the spreading horror of Zika.

Mr. Speaker, there are now thousands of confirmed cases of Zika in the United States. Hundreds of these cases are pregnant women.

Can you imagine the terror they experience wondering whether their child will be born with horrible disabilities?

What must they think as they see our public health experts coming to Congress?

These are the people who helped end the Ebola crisis. They come to Congress and they say: We need these resources.

The call has been made, but it has not been answered because some in this House think that, yes, your concerns are real, but we have to continue the fight about Planned Parenthood. Yes, my pregnant friend, your concerns are real, but we have unfinished business about the Confederate flag.

What must they think?

Mr. Speaker, the call has been issued. This is a national emergency. We need to act not tomorrow, not next week, but today to help these people with the Zika virus.

□ 1230

I'M BACK

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, during the week of July Fourth celebrations of our Nation's independence, I was diagnosed with leukemia. After entering the best cancer center in the world, MD Anderson Hospital in Houston, Texas, my hometown, in just 8 weeks, incredible progress has been made.

Thanks to the good Lord, the doctors, and staff at MD Anderson, I am able to be back in Washington, D.C., and on the House floor. I will be here as much as my treatment will allow.

Importantly, I want to thank the Members and people from all over the country for their outpouring of encouragement and prayers. It has been remarkably overwhelming and humbling to me. The caring concern of Members, their staffs, and my staff have shown proves, once again, that there are a lot of good people who work for the United States House of Representatives.

This September during Leukemia Awareness Month, I intend to keep fighting this cancer with all that I have while fighting for Texans in this House. I intend to be independent and free from this cancer. Christopher Reeve once said: "Once you choose hope, anything's possible."

Mr. Speaker, I choose hope.

And that is just the way it is.

GUN VIOLENCE

(Mr. HONDA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, this week we return after an epic recess of House Republican inaction on stemming gun violence, and yet gun violence does not recess. Between Memorial Day and this past weekend, 4,100 Americans died from gun-related activities, and nearly 8,700 were wounded.

Mr. Speaker, this week we return to the American people's ever-growing impatience for Congress to finally take